

HACIENDA HILLS WATER COMPANY (PWSNO 1280079)
SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORT

July 25, 2001



State of Idaho
Department of Environmental Quality

Disclaimer: This publication has been developed as part of an informational service for the source water assessments of public water systems in Idaho and is based on the data available at the time and the professional judgement of the staff. Although reasonable efforts have been made to present accurate information, no guarantees, including expressed or implied warranties of any kind, are made with respect to this publication by the state of Idaho or any of its agencies, employees, or agents, who also assume no legal responsibility for the accuracy of presentations, comments, or other information in this publication. The assessment is subject to modification if new data is produced.

Executive Summary

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, all states are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to assess every source of public drinking water for its relative sensitivity to contaminants regulated by the act. This risk assessment is based on a land use inventory in the well recharge zone, sensitivity factors associated with how the well was constructed, and aquifer characteristics.

This report, *Source Water Assessment for Hacienda Hills Water Company*, describes the public drinking water well; the well recharge zone and potential contaminant sites located inside the recharge zone boundaries.

This assessment, taken into account with local knowledge and concerns, should be used as a planning tool to develop and implement appropriate protection measures for this public water system. **The results should not be used as an absolute measure of risk and they should not be used to undermine public confidence in the water system.**

Hacienda Hills Water Company drinking water is supplied by a 500-foot deep well pumping from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The water system serves a population of about 50 people in a residential neighborhood in Hayden Lake, Idaho. Historically, Hacienda Hills Water Company has had few water quality problems. A ground water susceptibility analysis conducted by DEQ May 29, 2001 found the well to be at moderate risk for contamination, mostly because of natural factors associated with local geology.

This assessment should be used as a basis for determining appropriate new protection measures or re-evaluating existing protection efforts. No matter what ranking a source receives, protection is always important. Whether the source is currently located in a “pristine” area or an area with numerous industrial and/or agricultural land uses that require education and surveillance, the way to ensure good water quality in the future is to act now to protect valuable water supply resources.

Source water protection activities for Hacienda Hills Water Company should incorporate a variety of strategies. The Water Company needs to develop a back flow prevention plan. Water users should be encouraged to participate in voluntary ground water protection activities like household hazardous materials collections. Contingency plans for responding to potential emergencies should be developed.

Because 186 public water systems in Idaho draw water from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, they should consider forming a regional group to represent their interests before state, county and municipal governing bodies when regulatory tools like zoning overlays, or enactment of building codes are the most appropriate ground water protection measures. Partnerships with state and local agencies and industry groups should also be established for help in managing the well recharge zone outside of the direct jurisdiction of Hacienda Hills Water Company

Due to the time involved with the movement of ground water, source water protection activities should be aimed at long-term management strategies even though these strategies may not yield results in the near term. For assistance in developing protection strategies, please contact your regional Department of Environmental Quality office or the Idaho Rural Water Association.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT FOR HACIENDA HILLS WATER COMPANY

Section 1. Introduction - Basis for Assessment

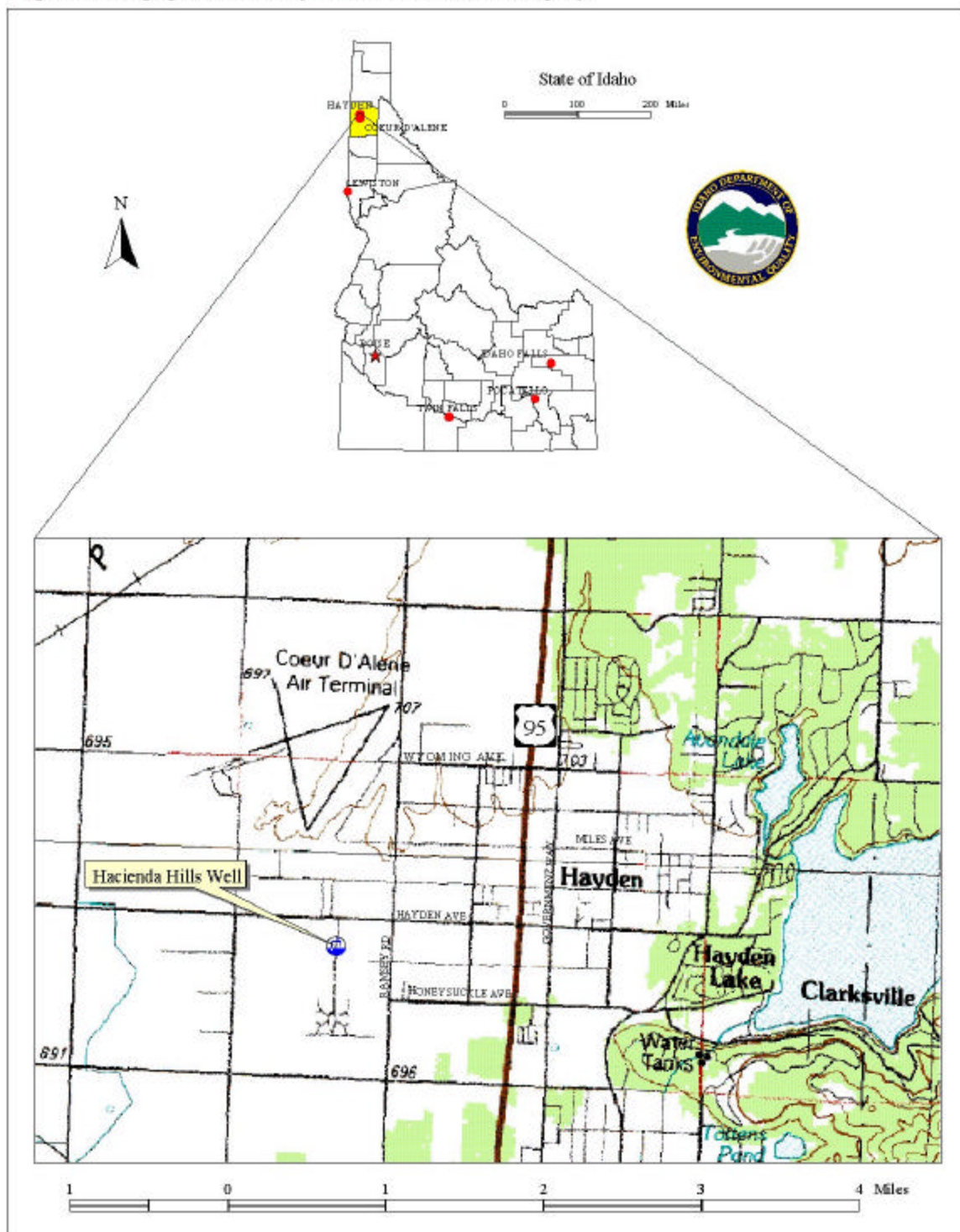
The following sections contain information necessary for understanding how and why this assessment was conducted. **It is important to review this information to understand what the ranking of this source means.** A map showing the delineated source water assessment area and an inventory of significant potential sources of contamination identified within that area are included. The ground water susceptibility analysis worksheets used to develop this assessment are attached.

Level of Accuracy and Purpose of the Assessment

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess every public drinking water source in Idaho for its relative susceptibility to contaminants regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act. These assessments are based on a land use inventory inside the delineated recharge zones, sensitivity factors associated with how the well is constructed, and aquifer characteristics. The state must complete more than 2900 assessments by May of 2003. Because resources and the time available to accomplish assessments are limited, an in-depth, site-specific investigation for every public water system is not possible.

The results of the source water assessment should not be used as an absolute measure of risk and they should not be used to undermine public confidence in the water system The ultimate goal of this assessment is to provide data to local communities for developing a protection strategy for their drinking water supply. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality recognizes that pollution prevention activities generally require less time and money to implement than treating a public water supply system once it has been contaminated. DEQ encourages communities to balance resource protection with economic growth and development. The decision as to the amount and types of information necessary to develop a source water protection program should be determined by the local community based on its own needs and limitations. Wellhead or source water protection is one facet of a comprehensive growth plan, and it can complement ongoing local planning efforts.

Figure 1. Geographic Location of Hacienda Hills Water Company



Section 2. Preparing for the Assessment

Defining the Zones of Contribution - Delineation

The delineation process establishes the physical area around a well that will become the focal point of the assessment. The process includes mapping the boundaries of the well recharge area into time of travel zones (zones indicating the number of years necessary for a particle of water to reach a well) for water in the aquifer.

DEQ used a refined computer model approved by the EPA to determine the time of travel (TOT) for water Hacienda Hills Water Company pumps from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The computer model used data assimilated by DEQ from a variety of sources including well logs in the vicinity of Hacienda Hills Water Company Well #1.

Hacienda Hills Water Company is a community water system with 21 connections serving a population of about 50 people in a residential neighborhood on the west side of the city of Hayden Lake, Idaho (Figure 1). Public drinking water for Hacienda Hills Water Company customers is supplied by a single well reported to be 500 feet deep.

The delineated source water assessment area for Hacienda Hills Water Company is a narrow corridor about 2.7 miles long stretching eastward from the well. (Figure 2). The delineation is divided into three time-of-travel zones: 0-to-3 years, 3-to-6 years and 6-to-10 years.

Identifying Potential Sources of Contamination

The goal of the inventory process is to locate and describe those facilities, land uses, and environmental conditions that are potential sources of ground water contamination. Inventories for public water systems in Idaho were conducted in two-phases. The first phase involved identifying and documenting potential contaminant sources within the source water assessment areas through the use of computer databases and Geographic Information System maps developed by DEQ. A map showing the delineation and a table summarizing the results of the database search were sent to the Hacienda Hills Water Company for review and correction during the second or enhanced phase of the inventory process.

Figure 2, *Hacienda Hills Water Company Delineation and Potential Contaminant Inventory* on page 7 of this report shows the location of the Hacienda Hills Water Company well, and the zones of contribution DEQ delineated for it. Land use in the well recharge zone is mostly residential. A municipal sewage plant serves some homes in the Hayden Lake area. Other homes are on individual septic systems. The recharge zone for the Hacienda Hills well crosses under two heavily used transportation corridors, Highway 95 and Government Way. Table 2 on page 8 of this report summarizes information about potential contaminant sites numbered on the map.

Many potential sources of contamination are regulated at the federal level, state level, or both to reduce the risk of release. When a business, facility, or property is identified as a potential contaminant source, this should not be interpreted to mean that this business, facility, or property is in violation of any local, state, or federal environmental law or regulation. What it does mean is that the potential for contamination exists due to the nature of the business, industry, or operation.

Section 3. Susceptibility Analysis

The susceptibility to contamination of all ground water sources in Idaho is being assessed on the following factors:

- physical integrity of the well,
- hydrologic characteristics,
- land use characteristics, and potentially significant contaminant sources,
- historic water quality.

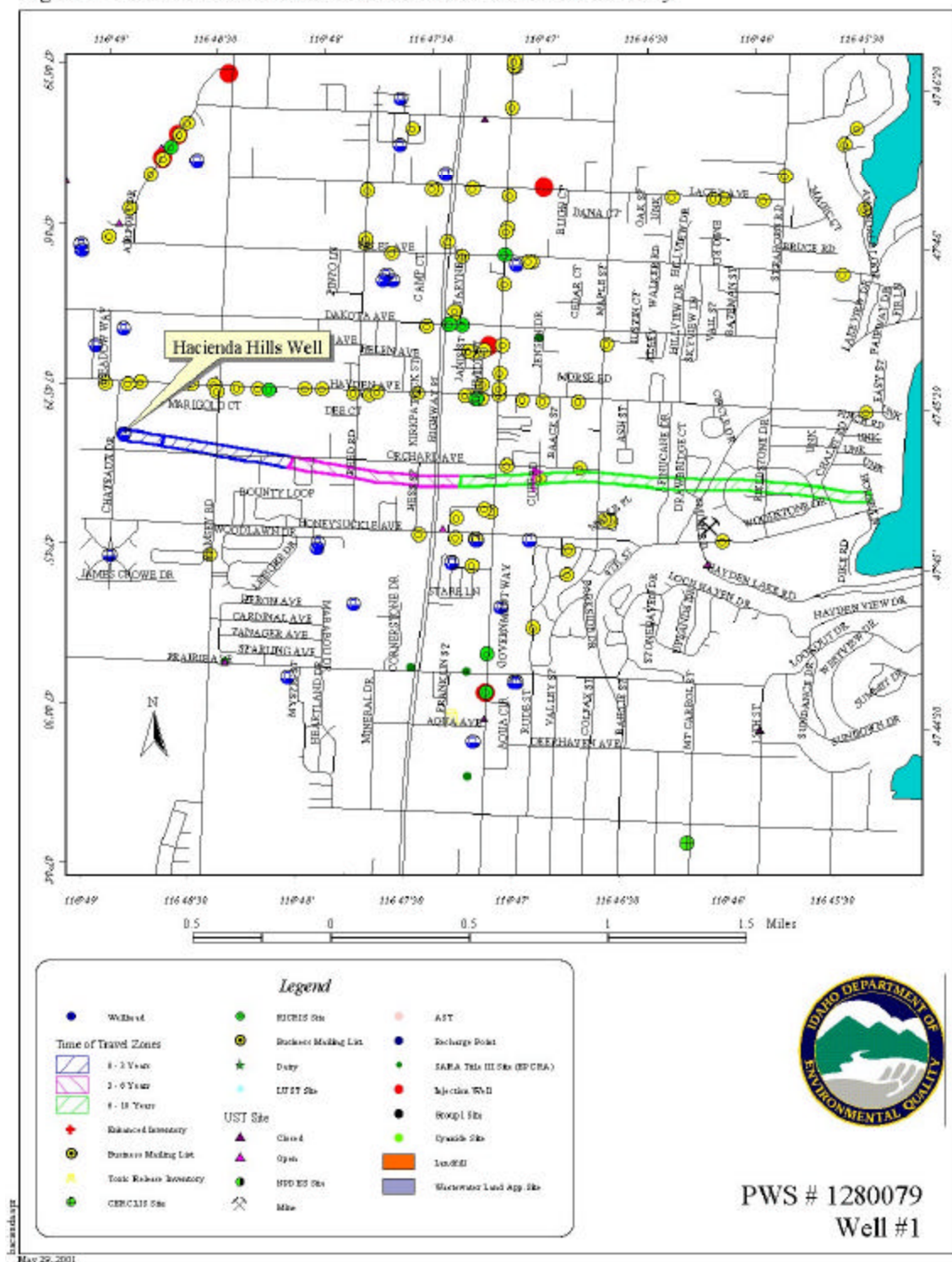
The susceptibility rankings are specific to a particular potential contaminant or category of contaminants. A high susceptibility rating relative to one potential contaminant does not mean that the water system is at the same risk for all other potential contaminants. The relative ranking that is derived for each well is a qualitative, screening-level step that, in many cases, uses generalized assumptions and best professional judgement. The following summaries describe the rationale for the susceptibility ranking. The Susceptibility Analysis Worksheet for the Hacienda Hills Water Company Well #1, Attachment A, shows in detail how the well scored.

Well Construction

Well construction directly affects the ability of the well to protect the aquifer from contaminants. Lower scores imply a well that can better protect the water. This portion of the susceptibility analysis relies on information from individual well logs and from the most recent sanitary survey of the public water system. There is no well log in the public water system file for Hacienda Hills; so many construction details used in the susceptibility analysis are unknown. A sanitary survey of the system was completed in May 2000.

The Hacienda Hills Water Company drinking water system has single well extracting ground water for irrigation and domestic uses. No treatment of the water is needed before it is distributed. The public water system file for Hacienda Hills indicates that well was drilled before 1979 to a depth of 500 feet and has an 8-inch casing. The pump is set at 450 feet. The static water level is reported to be 350 feet.

Figure 2. Hacienda Hills Delineation and Potential Contaminant Inventory.



Hydrologic Sensitivity

This portion of the susceptibility analysis relies heavily on the well log. When the well log is missing, the susceptibility analysis worksheet shows which factors are unknown. Hydrologic sensitivity scores reflect natural geologic conditions at the well site and in the recharge zone. The hydrologic sensitivity score for the Hacienda Hills Water Company Well #1 was five points out six points possible. Soils in the recharge zone generally are coarse glacial deposits that drain rapidly. Soils that drain rapidly are deemed less protective of ground water than finer grained, slow draining soils. Information in the public water system file indicates that the ground water depth at the Hacienda Hills well site is greater than 300 feet, a factor that protects the ground water because it provides a greater opportunity for potential contaminant attenuation through adsorption and other mechanisms.

Potential Contaminant Sources and Land Use

Land use within The Hacienda Hills Water Company well recharge zone is mostly residential Highway 95 and Government Way cross the 3 to 6 year and 6 to 10 year time of travel zones delineated for the well.

Table 1. Hacienda Hills Water Company Potential Contaminant Inventory

MAP ID NUMBER	SITE DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF INFORMATION	POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS ¹
1	Highway 95	USGS and County Maps	IOC, SOC, VOC, Microbial
2	Government Way	USGS and County Maps	IOC, SOC, VOC, Microbial

¹ IOC = inorganic chemical, VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical

Historic Water Quality

Historically, Hacienda Hills Water Company has had few water quality problems. The system is required to test monthly for microbial contamination. A positive bacterial sample on record for October 2000 was apparently due to sampling technique error. A group of positive microbial samples from the early 1990s was apparently related to contamination of the reservoir rather than to the well itself.

Annual tests required for nitrates show concentrations ranging from 0.60 mg/l to 2.20 mg/l. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrate is 10 mg/l. There are no test results on file for the years prior to 1994, for 1995 and 1997.

Synthetic organic compounds and volatile organic compounds have never been detected in the well. Radiological contaminants in concentrations far below MCL were present in samples tested in 1996 and 2000.

Final Susceptibility Ranking

The Hacienda Hills Water Company well ranked moderately susceptible to all classes of regulated contaminants, mostly because of natural geologic conditions associated with the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. Cumulative susceptibility scores are summarized on Table 3. The complete susceptibility analysis worksheet for the well can be found in Attachment A.

The final scores for the susceptibility analysis were determined using the following formulas:

- 1) VOC/SOC/IOC Final Score = Hydrologic Sensitivity + System Construction + (Potential Contaminant/Land Use x 0.2)
- 2) Microbial Final Score = Hydrologic Sensitivity + System Construction + (Potential Contaminant/Land Use x 0.35)

The final ranking categories are as follows:

- 0 - 5 Low Susceptibility
- 6 - 12 Moderate Susceptibility
- > 13 High Susceptibility

Table 2. Summary of Hacienda Hills Water Company Susceptibility Evaluation

Cumulative Susceptibility Scores						
Well Name	System Construction	Hydrologic Sensitivity	Contaminant Inventory			
			IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbial
Well #1	3	5	8	8	8	2
Final Susceptibility Ranking						
	IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbial		
Well #1	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate		

IOC = inorganic chemical, VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical

HIGH* - Indicates source automatically scored as high susceptibility due to presence of bacteria or a VOC, SOC or an IOC above the maximum contaminant level in the tested drinking water

Section 4. Options for Source Water Protection

The susceptibility assessment should be used as a basis for determining appropriate new protection measures or re-evaluating existing protection efforts. No matter what the susceptibility ranking a source receives, protection is always important. Whether the source is currently located in a “pristine” area or an area with numerous industrial and/or agricultural land uses that require education and surveillance, the way to ensure good water quality in the future is to act now to protect valuable water supply resources.

An effective source water protection program is tailored to the particular local source water protection area. The state and local health districts have instituted enhanced protection of the ground water in the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer because of its high use and uniquely pristine water quality. The protections are generally aquifer wide and are not aimed at zones of contribution to a specific well or water system. *The Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Atlas*, sent to water systems on the prairie when they were invited to perform an enhanced contaminant inventory, describes some of the regional protection measures.

The 186 public water systems in Idaho that draw water from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer should consider forming a regional group to represent their interests before state, county and municipal governing bodies when regulatory tools like zoning overlays, or enactment of building codes are the most appropriate ground water protection measures. These types of measures could be used to protect the capture zones of a specific system or group of wells that could be put at risk from local land use changes.

In its own service area, Hacienda Hills Water Company needs to develop a cross connection control plan. Non regulatory protection tools such as public education and information efforts should be directed toward water users. Water users can also be invited to participate in voluntary ground water protection activities like household hazardous materials collection days.

The water company should develop contingency plans for dealing with potential emergencies. Partnerships with state and local agencies and industry groups should be established to ensure a rapid, effective response to situations like the sewage main rupture at the corner of Orchard and Ramsey that occurred in April 2001

Due to the time involved with the movement of ground water, wellhead protection activities should be aimed at long-term management strategies even though these strategies may not yield results in the near term.

Assistance

Public water suppliers and users may call the following IDEQ offices with questions about this assessment and to request assistance with developing and implementing a local protection plan. In addition, draft protection plans may be submitted to the IDEQ office for preliminary review and comments.

Coeur d'Alene Regional DEQ Office (208) 769-1422

State IDEQ Office (208) 373-0502

Website: <http://www.deq.state.id.us>

Water suppliers serving fewer than 10,000 persons may contact John Bokor, Idaho Rural Water Association, at (208) 343-7001 for assistance with wellhead protection strategies.

References Cited

Great Lakes-Upper Mississippi River Board of State and Provincial Public Health and Environmental Managers, 1997. "Recommended Standards for Water Works."

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, August 2000. *The Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlas*.

Idaho Department of Agriculture, 1998. Unpublished Data.

Idaho Division of Environmental Quality, 1994. Ground Water and Soils Reconnaissance of the Lower Payette Area, Payette County, Idaho. Ground Water Quality Technical Report No. 5. Idaho Division of Environmental Quality. December 1994.

Idaho Division of Environmental Quality, 1996. Lower Payette River Agriculture Irrigation Water Return Study and Ground Water Evaluation, Payette County, Idaho. Water Quality Status Report No. 115.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1997. Design Standards for Public Drinking Water Systems. IDAPA 58.01.08.550.01.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 2000. City of Fruitland Wellhead Viability Project 319 Grant Final Report July 2000.

Idaho Department of Water Resources, 1993. Administrative Rules of the Idaho Water Resource Board: Well Construction Standards Rules. IDAPA 37.03.09.

Natural Resource Conservation Service, 1991. Idaho Snake-Payette Rivers Hydrologic Unit Plan of Work. March 1991.

United States Geological Survey, 1986. Quality of Ground Water in the Payette River Basin, Idaho. United States Geological Survey. Water Resources Investigation Report 86-4013.

University of Idaho. 1986. Ground Water Resources in a Portion of Payette County, Idaho. Idaho Water Resources Research Institute. University of Idaho. Moscow, Idaho. April 1986.

Attachment A

Hacienda Hills Water Company Susceptibility Analysis Worksheet

Ground Water Susceptibility

Public Water System Name : **HACIENDA HILLS WATER COMPANY**

Source: **WELL #1**

Public Water System Number : **1280079**

5/29/01 10:58:16 AM

1. System Construction		SCORE			
Drill Date	1/1/78				
Driller Log Available	NO				
Sanitary Survey (if yes, indicate date of last survey)	YES	0			
Well meets IDWR construction standards	UNKNKOWN	1			
Wellhead and surface seal maintained	YES	0			
Casing and annular seal extend to low permeability unit	UNKNOWN	2			
Highest production 100 feet below static water level	YES	0			
Well located outside the 100 year flood plain	YES	0			
Total System Construction Score		3			
2. Hydrologic Sensitivity					
Soils are poorly to moderately drained	NO	2			
Vadose zone composed of gravel, fractured rock or unknown	UNKNOWN	1			
Depth to first water > 300 feet	YES	0			
Aquitard present with > 50 feet cumulative thickness	UNKNOWN	2			
Total Hydrologic Score		5			
		IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbial
3. Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1A (Sanitary Setback)		Score	Score	Score	Score
Land Use Zone 1A	URBAN/COMMERCIAL	2	2	2	2
Farm chemical use high	NO	0	0	0	
IOC, VOC, SOC, or Microbial sources in Zone 1A	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Total Potential Contaminant Source/Land Use Score - Zone 1A		2	2	2	2
Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1B (3 YR. TOT)					
Contaminant sources present (Number of Sources)	NO	0	0	0	0
(Score = # Sources X 2) 8 Points Maximum		0	0	0	0
Sources of Class II or III leacheable contaminants or Microbials	NO	0	0	0	
4 Points Maximum		0	0	0	
Zone 1B contains or intercepts a Group 1 Area	NO	0	0	0	0
Land use Zone 1B	Less Than 25% Agricultural Land	0	0	0	0
Total Potential Contaminant Source / Land Use Score - Zone 1B		0	0	0	0
Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE II (6 YR. TOT)					
Contaminant Sources Present	YES	2	2	2	
Sources of Class II or III leacheable contaminants or Microbials	YES	1	1	1	
Land Use Zone II	Less than 25% Agricultural Land	0	0	0	
Potential Contaminant Source / Land Use Score - Zone II		3	3	3	0
Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE III (10 YR. TOT)					
Contaminant Source Present	YES	1	1	1	
Sources of Class II or III leacheable contaminants or Microbials	YES	1	1	1	
Is there irrigated agricultural lands that occupy > 50% of Zone	YES	1	1	1	
Total Potential Contaminant Source / Land Use Score - Zone III		3	3	3	0
Cumulative Potential Contaminant / Land Use Score		8	8	8	2
4. Final Susceptibility Source Score		10	10	10	9
5. Final Well Ranking		Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT INVENTORY

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

AST (Aboveground Storage Tanks) – Sites with aboveground storage tanks.

Business Mailing List – This list contains potential contaminant sites identified through a yellow pages database search of standard industry codes (SIC).

CERCLIS – This includes sites considered for listing under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)**. CERCLA, more commonly known as **Superfund** is designed to clean up hazardous waste sites that are on the national priority list (NPL).

Cyanide Site – DEQ permitted and known historical sites/facilities using cyanide.

Dairy – Sites included in the primary contaminant source inventory represent those facilities regulated by Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and may range from a few head to several thousand head of milking cows.

Deep Injection Well – Injection wells regulated under the Idaho Department of Water Resources generally for the disposal of stormwater runoff or agricultural field drainage.

Enhanced Inventory – Enhanced inventory locations are potential contaminant source sites added by the water system. These can include new sites not captured during the primary contaminant inventory, or corrected locations for sites not properly located during the primary contaminant inventory. Enhanced inventory sites can also include miscellaneous sites added by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) during the primary contaminant inventory.

Floodplain – This is a coverage of the 100year floodplains.

Group 1 Sites – These are sites that show elevated levels of contaminants and are not within the priority one areas.

Inorganic Priority Area – Priority one areas where greater than 25% of the wells/springs show constituents higher than primary standards or other health standards.

Landfill – Areas of open and closed municipal and non-municipal landfills.

LUST (Leaking Underground Storage Tank) – Potential contaminant source sites associated with leaking underground storage tanks as regulated under RCRA.

Mines and Quarries – Mines and quarries permitted through the Idaho Department of Lands.)

Nitrate Priority Area – Area where greater than 25% of wells/springs show nitrate values above 5mg/l.

NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) – Sites with NPDES permits. The Clean Water Act requires that any discharge of a pollutant to waters of the United States from a point source must be authorized by an NPDES permit.

Organic Priority Areas – These are any areas where greater than 25 % of wells/springs show levels greater than 1% of the primary standard or other health standards.

Recharge Point – This includes active, proposed, and possible recharge sites on the Snake River Plain.

RICRIS – Site regulated under **Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA)**. RCRA is commonly associated with the cradle to grave management approach for generation, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes.

SARA Tier II (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Tier II Facilities) – These sites store certain types and amounts of hazardous materials and must be identified under the Community Right to Know Act.

Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) – The toxic release inventory list was developed as part of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know (Community Right to Know) Act passed in 1986. The Community Right to Know Act requires the reporting of any release of a chemical found on the TRI list.

UST (Underground Storage Tank) – Potential contaminant source sites associated with underground storage tanks regulated as regulated under RCRA.

Wastewater Land Applications Sites – These are areas where the land application of municipal or industrial wastewater is permitted by DEQ.

Wellheads – These are drinking water well locations regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. They are not treated as potential contaminant sources.

NOTE: Many of the potential contaminant sources were located using a geocoding program where mailing addresses are used to locate a facility. Field verification of potential contaminant sources is an important element of an enhanced inventory.

Where possible, a list of potential contaminant sites unable to be located with geocoding will be provided to water systems to determine if the potential contaminant sources are located within the source water assessment area.